



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/584,306	05/31/2000	Eric James	99EC035/77526	3172
7590 01/27/2004 Welsh & Katz LTD 22nd Floor 120 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606			EXAMINER NGUYEN, QUYNH H	
			ART UNIT 2642	PAPER NUMBER 9
DATE MAILED: 01/27/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/584,306

Applicant(s)

JAMES, ERIC

Examiner

Quynh H Nguyen

Art Unit

2642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Remarks filed 11/17/03.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 2, 4, 6-13, 17, 18, 20-23, 24, 26-34, 37, 38, 40-46, and 48-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clare et al. (U.S. Patent 5,465,286) in view of Huang et al. (U.S. Patent 6,577,726).

Regarding claim 2, Clare et al. teach automatically monitoring entities in a call center (col. 11, lines 50-54); monitoring physical location information of entities and updating the electronic floor plan to provide and reflect a change in physical location information of the entities (col. 12, lines 26-64); displaying the electronic floor plan on the workstation of the supervisor (Fig. 1, 20 and Abstract, lines 3-12), the supervisor modifies the groups displayed in Fig. 2, for example, add, change, or delete (col. 6, line 63 through col. 7, line 2 and col. 9, lines 61-66, and col. 12, lines 26-30), the supervisor may change some outbound agents to inbound agents to address the excess inbound calls, changing in personnel or modification of agent locations (col. 10, lines 50-51).

Clare et al. do not suggest detailing the step of monitoring and detecting logons and logoffs of the entities.

Huang et al. teach a system and method for enabling a user / an agent to log in at any work station in a network using his/her unique agent ID to login to the configuration at different workspace locations, different computers and utilize computer

Art Unit: 2642

telephony integration (CTI) with a CTI enabled teleset (col. 1, lines 36-66 and col. 2, lines 22-30). While the user/agent is in the office at his/her desk or in another office at different desk, he/she is able to receive inbound calls (col. 3, lines 1-18). The CTI application uses the unique agent ID to find the teleset from a system configuration table for authentication purposes (col. 5, lines 5-29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the features of detecting logons and logoffs of the entities, as taught by Huang, in Clare's system in order to add more capability of providing and reflecting a change physical location information based upon the monitoring of the logons and logoffs of the entities to Clare's system beside relying on radio transmitting to determine the location of agents.

Regarding claims 4, 24, and 46, Clare et al. teach entities includes agent/personnel (Fig. 13, 61), consoles/agent terminals (col. 11, lines 61-63). Clare et al. do not teach printers and facsimile.

Huang et al. teach different scenarios where a call center agent works at his/her workspace at a call center moves to a different locations is using the same equipments such as laptop computer, printer, facsimile, etc. and logging in from different locations (col. 2, lines 22-30).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that any working station would have at least a printer and facsimile to better serve customers.

Art Unit: 2642

Regarding claims 6, 26, and 48, Clare et al. teach monitoring ("updated") the changes (col. 11, lines 50-60). However, Clare et al. do not teach comparing physical location at a second time with physical location at a first time. It would be necessary to compare the physical location at a second time with the physical location at a first time in order to display the updated information.

Regarding claims 7, 27, and 49, Clare et al. do not teach notifying a supervisor if the physical location information has been changed. It would have been obvious that one of the purposes of monitoring physical location of an entity in a call center is to notify the supervisor.

Regarding claims 8, 28, and 37, Clare et al. teach recording physical location information and retrieving the recorded physical location information (col. 10, lines 32-51). Clare et al. do not teach physical location information that is improper is maintained in a list of entities without physical location information. It would have been obvious that physical location information are not needed for improper location information, for example, there is no graphical image display on the electronic floor plan for an entity if an entity is located at an improper location.

Regarding claims 9, 10, 29, and 30, Huang et al. teach the physical location is entered by a call center user or server computer (user/agent log into CTI configuration with CTI enabled teletest).

Claims 11 and 31 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 5 and 8.

Regarding claims 12, 32, and 33, Clare et al. teach the recorded physical location information is determined by getting physical location information from a database (Fig. 1, memory in applications processor 50).

Regarding claims 13, 17, 18, 34, 38, and 52, Clare et al. do not teach translating includes using a look-up table to create a relationship between physical location information and graphical form and placing graphical image and using bit map drawing tools to produce two-dimensional image of the electronic floor plan. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that looking-up a table to create a relationship between physical information and graphical form, graphical image in order to provide proper and accurate drawing.

Regarding claims 20 and 40, Clare et al. teach the locating system updates the location information every one second in near real time. It would have been obvious that the locating system would have identified an entity, which has physically moved in order to update the location information.

Regarding claims 21, 41, and 22, 42, 43, 50, Clare et al. do not teach the electronic floor plan is updated with a prediction of physical location information based upon a history of physical location information and is archived and retrieved for later analysis. It would have been very useful in call center environment that prediction of physical location information based upon a history of physical location information and is archived and retrieved for later analysis in order to assist supervisor in planning.

Claim 23 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to claim 1. Furthermore, Clare et al. teach means for monitoring (Fig. 9 step 240 -

Art Unit: 2642

monitoring system and Fig. 10 step 300 - monitor subroutine), and Huang et al. teach means for monitoring physical location of agents of the call center based on the logons and logoffs of the agents (CTI middleware server with CTI application, and hotelling enabled teletest). Clare et al. further teach means for updating the electronic floor plan (Fig. 1).

Claims 44 and 45 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to claim 1. Furthermore, Clare et al. teach an entity monitor comprises a programmable computer which monitors entities for physical location information to provide an electronic floor plan (col. 12, line 65 through col. 13, line 21); a supervisors workstation that displays the electronic floor plan (Fig. 1, 20 and Abstract, lines 3-12); and an informer that updates the electronic floor plan displayed on the supervisors workstation to provide and reflect changes in physical location information of the entities (col. 13, line 46 through col. 14, line 32).

Claim 51 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to claim 11.

3. Claims 3, 5, 14-16, 19, 25, 35, 36, 39, and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clare et al. (U.S. Patent 5,465,286) in view of Huang et al. (U.S. Patent 6,577,726) and further in view of Matsuda et al. (U.S. Patent 6,268,872).

Regarding claims 3, 14, 15, 35, and 36, Clare and Huang do not teach physical location information includes Cartesian coordinates, latitude and longitude meridians,

Art Unit: 2642

and radius vector and angle and proper Cartesian coordinates can be graphically represented on the electronic floor plan.

Matsuda et al. teach a three-dimensional graphics language called Virtual Reality Modeling Language (VRML) that enables description of a three-dimensional space and setting of objects drawn in three-dimensional graphics; furthermore if entity 61 in Fig. 13 moves from one location to the next location, the Cartesian coordinates would change.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Cartesian coordinates would be needed for proper graphically representation of the electronic floor plan.

Claims 5, 19, 25, 39, and 47 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 3, 14, 15, 35, and 36. Furthermore, Clare et al. teach electronic floor plan includes a bit map image (col. 10, lines 37-51).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that vector graphics, object oriented graphics, and VRML browser are used for displaying a three-dimensional space and the advantage of using them are also well known.

Claim 16 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 37.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 11/17/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments are addressed in the above claims rejections.

Applicant argues that Clare et al. and Huang et al. fail to teach modifying configuration information of the entities within a lookup table based upon the detected log ons and log offs of the entities; monitoring physical location information of entities based upon configuration information within the lookup table to provide an electronic floor plan and means to perform the above steps. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Clare et al. teach (col. 6, line 63 through col. 7, line 2 and col. 9, lines 61-66, and col. 12, lines 26-30) that the supervisor modifies the groups displayed in Fig. 2, for example, add, change, or delete, the supervisor may change some outbound agents to inbound agents to address the excess inbound calls, changing in personnel or modification of agent locations (col. 10, lines 50-51). Clare et al. also teach (Fig. 9 step 240, Fig. 10 step 300, and col. 13, lines 16-18) that the monitoring system which includes the monitor subroutine to monitor the physical location of entities, for example, Fig. 6. The locating system updates the location information every second and the remote transmitting units 60 transmits an identification signal continuously or at regular intervals for the locating system to update their locations in near real time that taught in Clare col. 11, lines 50-54 that makes Clare's system even better than the instant application. However, Clare et al. do not suggest detail step of detecting log ons and log offs of the entities. Huang et al. a system and method for enabling a user / an agent to log in at any work station in a network using his/her unique agent ID to login to the configuration at different workspace locations, different computers and utilize computer telephony integration (CTI) with a CTI enabled teleset (col. 1, lines 36-66 and col. 2, lines 22-30).

Art Unit: 2642

While the user/agent is in the office at his/her desk or in another office at different desk, he/she is able to receive inbound calls (col. 3, lines 1-18).

Clare et al. teach means for monitoring (Fig. 9 step 240 - monitoring system and Fig. 10 step 300 - monitor subroutine), and Huang et al. teach means for monitoring physical location of agents of the call center based on the logons and logoffs of the agents (CTI middleware server with CTI application, and hotelling enabled teleset). Clare et al. further teach means for updating the electronic floor plan (Fig. 1).

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 2642

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

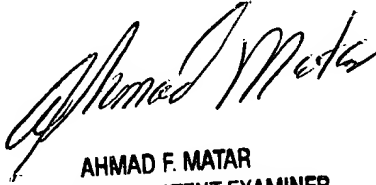
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quynh H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-5451. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

qhn

Quynh H. Nguyen
January 20, 2004


AHMAD F. MATAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2700